(b) Registration of a vessel in India bestows the privileges and obligation mentioned under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 as amended from time to time. In accordance with Part V of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 as amended, every Indian ship above 15 tons Net and employed in navigation on the coast of India, fitted with mechanical means of propulsion is required to be registered under the Act.

(c) The Registrar as referred to in para (a) above registers Indian ships at the relevant Port. The process of registration is generally completed in five working days subject to the vessel having required documentation.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Action plan for SSIs

2358. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the major problems faced by the small scale sector alongwith the comprehensive action taken by the Central and State Government for promotion and development of small scale industries; and

(b) the details of the plans of action to provide adequate credit to small scale sector to make them competitive?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The major problems faced by the small scale industries (SSIs) sector relate to lack of timely and adequate availability of credit, obsolete technology, infrastructure bottlenecks, marketing constraints, etc. For the promotion and development of the SSIs, the Government provides fiscal and credit support, infrastructure development support, incentives for technology upgradation, marketing support, etc. The measures taken to provide adequate credit to the SSI sector include enhancement in composite loan limit from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore, raising of project cost limit under National Equity Fund (NEF) Scheme from Rs. 25 lakh to Rs. 50 lakh, enhancement of eligible loan limit under Credit Guarantee Scheme from Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 25 lakh, advice to banks to adopt interest rate band of 2% above and below prime lending rates, providing collateral free loan upto Rs. 25 lakh to SSI units having good track record, setting up of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

Fund of Rs. 10,000 crore under SIDBI, enhancement of credit limit under Laghu Udayami Credit Card (LUCC) from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh based on satisfactory track record, etc.

National Commission for problems of SSIs

2359. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Commission to examine the problems faced by the small scale industries sector;

(b) the current problems being faced by the SSI sector; and

(c) the action plan of Government to address the key issues of credit, provide them marketing support and development of infrastructure in the SSI clusters?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Under its Resolution No. 5/2/2004-ICC dated 20th September, 2004, the Government has set up the National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganised/Informal Sector.

(b) and (c) The major problems faced by the small scale industries (SSIs) sector relate to lack of timely and adequate availability of credit, obsolete technology, infrastructure bottlenecks, marketing constraints, etc. The Government implements various schemes for improving flow of credit, technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster development approach, marketing support, etc. Further, in its National Common Minimum Programme, the Government has announced early formulation of a major promotional package for the SSI sector to give it full credit, technological and markeing support.

Development of SSIs in Kashmir valley

2360. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Kashmir valley has no industrial sector-public or private;

(b) whether Kashmir has only cottage industries sector and there is ample scope for development of small scale industries; and